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(concluded)

inside surface of the plurality of pieces, wherein the plurality of pieces pass said rotating tamp pad on a conveyor belt.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has noted Applicant's claim of priority and indicates that Applicant has not yet filed a certified copy of the Swedish priority application. Applicant appreciates the Examiner bringing this matter to the Applicant's attention. In response, Applicant would like to inform the Examiner that a certified copy of the Swedish priority application was filed on December 20, 1999 in U.S. patent application no. 09/467,535, of which application the present application is a divisional application.

Claims 5-7 and 24-29 stand objected to because of lack of antecedent basis. In response, Applicant has amended claims 5-7 and 24-29 to clarify the antecedent basis of terms used in claims 5-7 and 24-29. In addition, claims 3 and 21-23 have been amended in order to further clarify the antecedent basis of terms used in claims 3 and 21-23. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that these objections be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 195 18 588 A1 to Wilfried ("Wilfried"). However, Applicant submits that Wilfried does not appear to teach or suggest one of the distinguishing features of claim 1, namely, a step of printing in a first direction causing compression of the at least one tamp pad against said first boundary

surface, the compression causing the tamp pad to deform and printing in a second direction against a second boundary surface of the plurality of boundary surfaces of claim 1. In contrast, Wilfried appears to merely teach a plurality of tamp pads mounted on a rotating axle. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that claim 1 distinguishes over Wilfried.

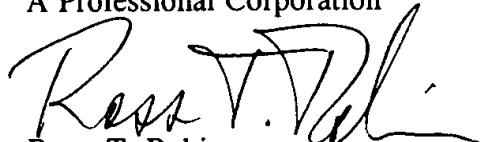
Claims 4-7 depend from and further limit claim 1. Therefore, claims 4-7 are also deemed to distinguish over Wilfried.

Claims 2, 3, and 17-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilfried in view of WO 97/34459 to Eriksson (“Eriksson”). Applicant respectfully submits that, because Wilfried fails to teach, suggest, or render obvious one of the distinguishing features of claim 1, claims 2, 3, and 17-29 also distinguish over the Wilfried in view of Eriksson.

A clean copy of all pending claims is attached to this Amendment and Response. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the thorough reconsideration of this application and earnestly solicits an early notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Clean copy of pending claims after response filed to July 5, 2001 office action:

1. A method of tamp printing of at least one picture using at least one tamp pad on a piece having a plurality of boundary surfaces forming angles in relation to one another, the method comprising the steps of:

printing in a first direction against a first boundary surface of said plurality of boundary surfaces, the step of printing in the first direction causing compression of the at least one tamp pad against said first boundary surface, the compression causing the tamp pad to deform; and

printing in a second direction against a second boundary surface of the plurality of boundary surfaces, whereby the at least one picture is transferred to said boundary surfaces.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said piece comprises a mobile telephone cover and said boundary surfaces comprise inside surfaces of said mobile telephone cover.

3. (TWICE AMENDED) A method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one picture comprises an electrically conductive layer.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the tamp pad comprises a rotating tamp pad rotating around a shaft.

5. (TWICE AMENDED) A method according to claim 4, wherein said rotating tamp pad comprises at least one intermediate notch dividing the rotating tamp pad into a plurality of tamp pad portions, the plurality of tamp pad portions each being able to individually print said at least one picture against an inside surface of the piece.

6. (TWICE AMENDED) A method according to claim 5, wherein the steps of printing in a first and second direction further comprise:

applying ink from an ink container to at least one rotating printing block responsive to rotation of the tamp pad, said at least one rotating printing block being in rotating contact with the tamp pad, thereby transferring the at least one picture to the plurality of tamp pad portions; and

transferring said at least one picture from the plurality of tamp pad portions to a plurality of pieces.

7. (TWICE AMENDED) A method according to claim 6, wherein said plurality of tamp pad portions of said rotating tamp pad print said at least one picture on an inside surface of the plurality of pieces, wherein the plurality of pieces pass said rotating tamp pad on a conveyor belt.

17. A method according to claim 1, wherein said picture comprises an electrically conductive layer.

18. A method according to claim 2, wherein the tamp pad comprises a rotating tamp pad rotating around a shaft.

19. A method according to claim 3, wherein the tamp pad comprises a rotating tamp pad rotating around a shaft.

20. A method according to claim 17, wherein the tamp pad comprises a rotating tamp pad rotating around a shaft.

21. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 18, wherein said rotating tamp pad comprises at least one intermediate notch dividing the rotating tamp pad into a plurality of tamp pad portions, the plurality of tamp pad portions each being able to individually print said at least one picture against an inside surface of the at least one piece.

22. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 19, wherein said rotating tamp pad comprises at least one intermediate notch dividing the rotating tamp pad into a plurality of tamp pad portions, the plurality of tamp pad portions each being able to individually print said at least one picture against the inside surfaces of the mobile telephone cover.

23. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 20, wherein said rotating tamp pad comprises at least one intermediate notch dividing the rotating tamp pad into a plurality of tamp

pad portions, the plurality of tamp pad portions each being able to individually print said at least one picture against an inside surface of the piece.

24. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 21, wherein the steps of printing in a first and second direction further comprise:

applying ink from an ink container to at least one rotating printing block responsive to rotation of the tamp pad, said at least one rotating printing block being in rotating contact with the tamp pad, thereby transferring the at least one picture to the plurality of tamp pad portions; and

transferring said at least one picture from the plurality of tamp pad portions to a plurality of pieces.

25. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 22, wherein the steps of printing in a first and second direction further comprise:

applying ink from an ink container to at least one rotating printing block responsive to rotation of the tamp pad, said at least one rotating printing block being in rotating contact with the tamp pad, thereby transferring the at least one picture to the plurality of tamp pad portions; and

transferring said at least one picture from the plurality of tamp pad portions to a plurality of pieces.

26. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 23, wherein the steps of printing in a first and second direction further comprise:

applying ink from an ink container to at least one rotating printing block responsive to rotation of the tamp pad, said at least one rotating printing block being in rotating contact with the tamp pad, thereby transferring the at least one picture to the plurality of tamp pad portions; and

transferring said at least one picture from the plurality of tamp pad portions to a plurality of pieces.

27. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 24, wherein said plurality of tamp pad portions of said rotating tamp pad print said at least one picture on an inside surface of the plurality of pieces, wherein the plurality of pieces pass said rotating tamp pad on a conveyor belt.

28. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 25, wherein said plurality of tamp pad portions of said rotating tamp pad print said at least one picture on an inside surface of the plurality of pieces, wherein the plurality of pieces pass said rotating tamp pad on a conveyor belt.

29. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 26, wherein said plurality of tamp pad portions of said rotating tamp pad print said at least one picture on an inside surface of the plurality of pieces, wherein the plurality of pieces pass said rotating tamp pad on a conveyor belt.